

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

6730 Martin Way E., Olympia, Washington 98516-5540

Phone (360) 438-1180

FAX # 753-8659

Statement Regarding HB 1866 By Bill Frank, Jr., Chairman Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

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The Tribes oppose HB 1866, in any form. The so-called "Environmental Excellence" Bill is a landmark example of misnomer legislation. It is, in fact, an assault on the environment. It is unconscionable to propose that pollution standards be set aside, risking human and natural resource health, for industrial interest. This bill does precisely that.

This bill is based on a federal experiment called XL, a process that has already resulted in extensive public protest due to its resultant reduction in pollution emission levels. HB 1866 is a bill that ignores the extraordinary flexibility already written into state law in an effort to appease industry.

This bill goes the wrong direction in today's world of expanding environmental challenge and pending federal intervention into natural resource management.